

at all if you can help it; don't hit a man if you
can possibly
avoid it; but if you do hit him, put him to
sleep.

"It is our duty to tell the truth. If conditions
are good,
tell the truth. If they are 'bad, tell the truth. If
they have
been bad and become good, tell the truth. We
are told now
and then that the truth would frighten our
people so that
they would not go on with the war. If they are
such a set
of weaklings and cowards, then nothing can
save us. On the
contrary, I believe that the full telling of the
truth will wake
the American people up to a sterner
realization of the task
that is before them, and therefore to a sterner
resolve that,
cost what it may, every deficiency shall be
remedied, every
wrong undone, every failure of Government
officials turned
into an achievement and a success, so that as
speedily as
possible we may harden our giant but soft and
lazy strength,
and exert it to the fullest degree necessary to
bring the peace
of liberty in this mighty conflict for civilization
and the wel-
fare of mankind."